

ABSTRACT

SPECIFIC INHIBITORS OF NFAT ACTIVATION BY CALCINEURIN
AND THEIR USE IN TREATING IMMUNE-RELATED DISEASES

Isolated peptide fragments of the conserved regulatory domain of NFAT protein capable of inhibiting protein-protein interaction between calcineurin and NFAT, or a biologically active analog thereof are described. Isolated polynucleotides and gene therapy vectors encoding such peptide fragments are also described. In addition, methods for treating immune-related diseases or conditions and methods for high throughput screening of candidate agents are described. Pharmaceutical compositions are also provided.